

**Quarterly Issues and Programming Report  
January 2010 thru March 2010**

**WTNH/News Channel 8**

1. Community Issues
2. Health
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## **Community Issues:**

### **January:**

01/06/10: News Channel 8 at 11pm - :35

#### **"New Haven Violence Summit"**

People in New Haven are coming together to try to find new ways of fighting violence in the city. Tonight's summit on Goffe Street attracted local politicians, police officers, community leaders... and concerned neighbors. The meeting comes after four shootings -- two of them deadly -- all since New Year's Day. One of them happened just 15-minutes into the New Year, in the parking lot of So-Co's Cafe on Fitch Street. People at tonight's meeting say it's time for those who know somebody involved in gun violence to stop turning a blind eye to what's going on. Since October - there have been seven people killed in shootings in New Haven.

01/07/10: News Channel 8 at Noon - :30

#### **"Hartford Apartment Fire Follow up "**

Only some of the apartments are damaged, but the landlord is letting any tenant here move right into an apartment in another building it owns. The Director of property management says they have plenty of room in other buildings. But everyone affected by this fire has to check in with case workers at the Red Cross Shelter at the Pope Park Community Center. That's the only way to get all the help coming to them.

01/13/10: News Channel 8 at Noon - :20

#### **"Earthquake Haitian Community"**

Back to the big story of the day ... Here in Connecticut many in the city of Norwich are worried about loved ones in Haiti. The city has a large Haitian population. There are also several outreach organizations based in the city.

### **February:**

02/05/10: News Channel 8 at Noon - 1:25

#### **"Windsor Language Fine"**

Students at Windsor High School have been warned to watch your language. An inappropriate four-letter word could be costly. The school is cracking down on swearing. Principal Russell Sills says it's an effort to produce not just good students, but good citizens. Principal Russell Sills: "Who they are and how they represent themselves is just as important as what they know." Sills says he's noticed profanity slipping into mainstream conversation a little too easily in the school. So, from now on, get caught using profanity and get a ticket and a 103-dollar fine. Hung Do, student: "I just hope that teachers and security guards and administrators who do this are able to have discretion when they're doing this, because there are times when people, you know, stub their toe." Principal Russell Sills: "We understand our kids have that language in their vocabulary and those words slip out, they drop a book, they get frustrated. It's not what we're really targeting.

What they're targeting, is the use of profanity directed towards teachers and other students. It's about respect and community. The reality is, it's hard for kids to escape that kind of language these days. Debra Sansone, parent: "I think television and movies and music is really loaded with profanity, that it really seems like no big deal to them." Parent Debra Sansone says a ticket seems a bit extreme, but she supports the idea. So, for the most part, do students. Hung Do, student: "Because it's a school part of education is learning how to work in a professional environment." This isn't a new policy at Windsor High School -- they say it worked pretty well when they did it 6 years ago. It's also not just a High School policy -- they're actually enforcing a town ordinance, thus the \$103 fine.

#### 02/15/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :20

##### **"Little Liberia Funds"**

A project to restore two historic homes in Bridgeport's former "Little Liberia" may be getting a financial boost. The city council is set to vote tomorrow to give 47-thousand dollars to the non-profit - Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community. The money would come from a federal Community Development block grant. Both homes became the foundation for a thriving community of free black people in the mid-1800's.

#### 02/17/10: News Channel 8 at 11pm -- 1:30

##### **"Trumbull Generator Protest"**

The line stretches out the chamber door at Trumbull Town Hall. The expressions are stone-faced serious. They are concerned. They are worried. We came here tonight as a unified community to strongly oppose the installation of a power plant in the heart of our Trumbull community. Danbury based Connecticut FuelCell Energy Incorporate wants to build a fuel cell/turbo-expander energy system at the corner of Huntington Turnpike and Primrose. SCG operates a small facility here right now. The signs of discontent with this idea seem to be everywhere even from snowmen. Our home values are going to go down a hell of a lot more than they are right now. But the overriding concern is safety. It was just a week and a half ago that the Kleen Energy Plant exploded in Middletown, killing five people. That was in a relatively rural area...this site is surrounded by houses...owned by people ready to fight. I'm so proud to be part of this passionate, educated well organized group of residents that have just hit the ground running six days ago. Nothing is set in stone, and ultimately, for the power plant to come to fruition, it must first be approved by the Connecticut Siting Council. Neighbors hope the company gets the message to go somewhere else. Although at times our message may be filled with emotion, it's only because we're passionate about this plight.

#### 02/20/10: News Channel 8 at 6pm - :40

##### **"Haiti Donations"**

More than a month after the devastating earthquake in Haiti donations keep pouring in from folks right here in Connecticut. The Congregation of the First Baptist Church of Wallingford is an example of that. During this past month - folks there have collected enough food and medical supplies to fill more than one box truck... translating into tens of thousands in donations. The load is being shipped to Les Cayes, Haiti...about one-hundred-fifty miles outside Port au Prince. The town has become overwhelmed with the number of refugees there...the population doubling in size in recent weeks. The shipment will go from this facility in Wallingford to a port in New York where it will travel by boat to the Dominican Republic, and then to Haiti.

#### **March:**

#### 03/01/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 5am - :17

##### **"Church Anniversary"**

This weekend a New Haven church celebrated its 190th anniversary. The Dixwell United Church of Christ is the oldest African American congregational church in the nation. They say the church

was first formed by 24 former slaves. Another celebration kicks off in May... to honor the church's 190 years in the community.

### 03/11/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :25

#### **"Helping Homeless"**

An effort to help the homeless get the services they need. There is a one-stop shopping event happening in Bridgeport later this morning that will change the way people access the things they need...reduce their risk of ending up on the streets...that's the idea of special day-long program here in Bridgeport. By some estimates...more than 300 people in the greater Bridgeport area experience homelessness throughout the year. Much like this event your seeing in Hartford...the Project Homeless Connect aims to do just that...with the day-long opportunity for homeless neighbors to receive community and social resources for housing, mental health, legal, employment, medical and financial services with homeless people to address their needs. The fifth annual event...sponsored the Greater Bridgeport Area Continuum of Care will be today... from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at United Congregational Church at 877 Park Avenue, Bridgeport.

### 03/21/10: Good Morning Connecticut Weekend - :15

#### **"Guilford Prom Show"**

A shoreline town is coming together... in memory of a young woman the whole community adored. Kellie Duggan lost her battle with cancer on January 3rd, 2010 when she was just 21 years old. The dedicated college student had a large impact on the town of Guilford... and now there is an effort to build a dock in her honor that the whole community can enjoy. There's a Prom Show next weekend to raise money for it. And joining us this morning to talk about it... Regina Criscuolo, the organizer of the show, and her two children who are models in the show, Amanda and Michael. Prom Fashion Show to benefit Kelly Duggan Foundation March 28<sup>th</sup> 4:00 - 5:30 PM FREE Community Center 32 Church Street, Guilford.

## **Health:**

### **January:**

### 01/04/10: Good Morning Connecticut 5am - :25

#### **"Ginko and Memory"**

A new study is out on the effectiveness of the popular Herbal Supplement Ginko Biloba. Often hailed as the memory drug researchers from the University of Virginia say "Ginko" does not slow cognitive decline for elderly patients has no real effect on memory and does not prevent Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Still, about 250 million dollars in Ginkgo is sold in the US each year.

### 01/08/10: Good Morning Connecticut 6am - :30

#### **"Cellphone/Alzheimers"**

Health news this morning... your cell phone \*could\* help protect you from Alzheimer's disease. That's what a new study is showing about the effect electromagnetic waves have on mice. Those waves are released from cell phones. A study released in this week's issue of the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease shows normal mice who had long term exposure to electromagnetic waves avoided developing the disease. Plus, mice that already started getting sick started getting better with the exposure. Researchers say these findings require further study and is no call to self-medicate by spending more time on your cell-phone.

### 01/18/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :25

#### **"Reducing Toxins"**

A new plan is out tonight... to keep the people of Connecticut as healthy as possible.

Activists and state lawmakers are launching a new legislative campaign... to reduce toxins in infant formula, baby food containers and a range of re-usable food and drink containers. Last year, Connecticut became the first state to ban the chemical B-P-A. The Coalition for a Safe and Healthy Connecticut will release a report on Thursday.. on the cost of preventable diseases caused by chemicals. Connecticut's new law takes effect in October of 2011.

#### 01/22/10: Good Morning Connecticut 6a - :25

##### **"Missing Nutrient – Vitamin D"**

It's an important nutrient... but many of us just aren't getting enough. We all need Vitamin D for everything from maintaining healthy bones... to preventing certain cancers... cardiovascular disease... and neurological disorders. But... Researchers say about half of all people lack Vitamin D... and there are easy ways to make sure you have enough. It's already fortified into things like fruit juices, cereals. But... eggs, milk and other dairy products are also a good source. Mushrooms are the only fruit for vegetable that naturally contains Vitamin D. Plus wild Alaska salmon is one of the richest sources for the vitamin.

#### **February:**

#### 02/01/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 5am - :20

##### **"Cord Blood Forum"**

A bipartisan coalition of legislators in our state is hosting a forum today on cord blood education and banking. Last year lawmakers required health care providers to inform expectant mothers about the option to bank or donate their newborn baby's umbilical cord blood. The blood is rich in stem cells and can be frozen and used to treat various diseases. Right now Connecticut parents can pay private banks to store the blood. But, there's a push to create a public cord blood bank.

#### 02/04/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :25

##### **"Text4baby"**

Moms who are expecting are getting a new tool to help keep them and their babies healthy -- pregnancy tips sent directly to their cell phones. It's called the text-4-baby campaign. It's the first free, health education program in the U-S to use mobile phones. Under the service, mothers-to-be who text "baby" to 5-1-1-4-1-1 will get weekly text messages about nutrition, immunization, birth defect prevention and more. Organizers are hoping to curb premature births.

#### 02/18/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 5am - :35

##### **"Aspirin Breast Cancer"**

Health news this morning... you know it works for other ailments... but aspirin may have another use. A new study shows aspirin appears to increase survival for women with breast cancer. The drug may also reduce the chances of the disease to come back. This latest research appears in this week's *Journal of Clinical Oncology*. The study found women who took aspirin were 50-percent less likely to die from cancer than those who didn't take the drug. Researchers speculate aspirin might lower estrogen in the blood and might prevent the early spread of cancer. However, researchers also say aspirin would never be a substitute for recommended cancer treatments.

#### 02/25/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm – 1:00

##### **"Cholesterol Lowering"**

Patients with hard to control cholesterol -- seek help from Cardiologist Dr. Anjanette Ferris. "Often times when patients come through my door, a lot of modalities have been tried and their cholesterol is difficult to control." Dr. Ferris oversees the Lipid Disorder Center at U-Conn Health Center. Managing high cholesterol starts with healthy food choices low in saturated fat. That means "nothing fried and I won't make any exceptions." "It really is not giving us the nutrition that we need and actually it's giving us a lot of the things we don't need such as the fat and sometime the salt content." When it comes to dairy ... "fat free or 1 percent milk." Stay away from whole

milk "and you want fat free milk because it is low in saturated fat, exactly, and again those little choices that make each day add up." Do load up on colorful fruits and veggies. "Again, not high in calories, not high in fat but high in nutrition that we all need, high in fiber.

## **March:**

03/18/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm – :30

### **“Pediatric Cancer Center”**

The Connecticut Children's Medical Center is unveiling plans to improve Cancer Care. The medical center already has one of the most comprehensive oncology programs in New England. Now it is launching a five million dollar campaign to build a new outpatient Care Center for treating Cancer and Blood Disorders. When finished, the center will have seven exam rooms, an onsite laboratory and twice the amount of room as the current facility.

03/19/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :55

### **“CT/Toxic Toys”**

Connecticut lawmakers are pushing through several new bills aimed at keeping toxic chemicals out of children's toys and jewelry. The centerpiece of that effort has already passed committee. It would require the state Department of Public Health to come up with an annual list of the most dangerous chemicals for children. Lawmakers would then have the power to ban those chemicals from being added to toys being made and sold in Connecticut. A bill banning the sale of any children's jewelry containing dangerous levels of Cadmium also passed committee. That ban goes into effect in October 2014.

03/25/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :25

### **“Breast Cancer Prevention”**

Add this to the list of benefits of eating less and getting more exercise. It could prevent women from getting breast cancer. That's according to researchers at a conference in Barcelona. Better treatments, early diagnosis and mammogram screenings have dramatically slowed the disease.. but experts say, the 'focus' - should now shift to changing behaviors - like diet and physical activity. Here's why... Many breast cancers are fueled by estrogen... a hormone produced in fat tissue. So experts suspect -- the more fat a woman stores, the more estrogen she is likely to produce... which could in turn - spark breast cancer

## **Education:**

## **January:**

01/06/10: News Channel 8 at 11pm - :25

### **“Bethany WX Lab”**

Storm Team 8 Meteorologist Gil Simmons had the News Channel 8's mobile weather lab at the "Bethany Community School" today. About 30 4th and 5th grade students got to hang out with Gil. They even put on a mock news conference and asked Gil a whole bunch of questions. Some of the kids wanted to know if Gil attracts Paparazzi, or if he's Rich, or if he wears make-up.

01/11/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :20

### **“School Reform”**

State education officials formally announce... that Connecticut will apply for 175 million federal dollars. The 'Race to the Top' funding will pay for several 'statewide' and 'local' initiatives. Preparing students for the 'high tech' world we live in is a top priority. Connecticut will also become a part of the nation's 'Common Core State Standards Initiative'... with the goal of raising overall academic standards.

01/20/10: News Channel 8 at 11pm - :20

**“Wallingford School Rally”**

Students in Wallingford were out to change some minds tonight... when it comes to cutting educational costs. A group of seventh graders is protesting proposed budget cuts by the board of education. Those cuts could spell the elimination of some 50 teaching positions -- in addition to nearly 100 other non-teaching positions. The protest was held before an informational budget meeting at Sheehan High School tonight.

01/21/10: News Channel 8 a 6pm - :30

**“LPN Program Followup”**

A bipartisan group is being formed to help save the state's licensed practical nurse program. It will look at various ways to reinstate Connecticut's L-P-N adult education program. It graduates about 350 students every 16 months into a high-demand medical field. It costs students about five thousand dollars for the program. But to cut the state budget deficit Governor Rell has proposed suspending the program for the ten vocational technical schools. The group will hold its first meeting tomorrow.

**February:**

02/04/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 5am - :15

**“Bristol School Closing”**

Bristol will have one less school next year. According to the Bristol press, the board of education voted unanimously last night to close the Clarence A Bingham School. Several parents protested the closing... but the superintendent says it's a financial necessity. The Clarence A Bingham school closes it's doors July first.

02/09/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm – 2:00

**“UCONN Tuition Hike”**

A proposed tuition hike at the University of Connecticut is causing alarm among students. In-state students pay over 19-thousand dollars right now. The proposal is to hike that by 6-point-3 percent for the 20-10, 20-11 school year. Administrators at UConn say it is necessary to save jobs. But students at the Waterbury campus tell us paying for higher- education is already difficult. The Chief Financial Officer at UConn says they would still have the fifth-lowest tuition costs among peer public institutions. Trustees will consider the increase next week. A protest by students is planned for Monday.

02/19/10: News Channel 8 at 11pm - :20

**“Milford Graduation Payment”**

Parents in Milford say they're willing to pay up to ensure their kids get to experience an education celebration. To cut costs, last year's graduation ceremonies were scrapped at all three middle schools. A survey was sent to all eighth-graders' parents two weeks ago asking whether the ceremonies should return and if parents were willing to pay for them. The overwhelming majority of those who answered said they would cover the cost of giving their children a traditional graduation with caps and gowns.

02/28/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :20

**“Prison/College”**

10 LIBERAL arts colleges... including Wesleyan University... are coming together to give prisoners a chance at higher education. The 2-year pilot program at the Cheshire Correctional Institution has 18 students. But critics say such programs should target at risk youth before they become criminals.

## **March:**

03/02/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :25

### **"Read Across America"**

Some state lawmakers are taking a break from the office today... to go back to school. It's "Read Across America Day".... and state leaders are hitting early care and education centers across the state to read to some of Connecticut's youngest students. The day also coincides with what would have been Dr. Seuss's 106th Birthday.

03/15/10: News Channel 8 at 12 noon – :40

### **"No Child Left Behind"**

President Obama wants to make big changes to the nation's educational system. He wants to overhaul the current "No Child Left Behind" program that was spearheaded by Former President George W. Bush. Education Secretary Arne Duncan says 'No Child Left Behind' doesn't give children a well-rounded education. The Obama administration hopes Congress will pass the measure this year.

03/23/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :55

### **"Education Funding Suit"**

Our state's Supreme Court is pumping new life into a lawsuit challenging Connecticut's method of funding public schools. In 2005, the "Connecticut Coalition for Justice in Education Funding" sued the state arguing that gaps between rich and poor towns showed some students were not receiving an adequate education. The state Supreme Court says Connecticut's constitution promises an education that is good enough to prepare students for a job or college. But the new ruling was tight, four to three and it means the lawsuit may go back to Superior Court. Many involved are hoping that the courts will eventually say the state public school funding mechanism is not good enough. That could eventually give them the ammunition to say Connecticut's income tax would be a better way to fund public schools rather than local property taxes.

## **Crime:**

## **January:**

01/04/10: News Channel 8 at 5am - :25

### **"Benefield Murder Arrest"**

The man arrested for a crime that another man spent 20 years behind bars for is due in a new York Court this week. 45 year old Kevin Benefield was arrested last week in the bronx in connection with the murder of Barbara Pelkey back in 1986. Police say D-N-A evidence lead them to Benefield. He's due in court Tuesday. He has waived extradition and will be brought back to Connecticut and arraigned on murder and sexual assault charges. Another man.... was originally convicted of the crime but was exonerated by D-N-A evidence last year.

01/15/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :20

### **"New Haven Gun Sweep"**

Police tell us 'gun sweeps' are making an impact in reducing violent crime here in The Elm City. News Channel Eight's Erin Cox joins us with more on what police have recovered. Detectives actually found a gun used in a recent shooting hidden in a pizza box. Most of the firearms they find are connected to the drug trade - and being carried by those who already have a criminal record.

01/22/10: News Channel 8 at 6am - :40

### **"Plainfield Crime Spree"**



Police say two men who went on a crime spree in Plainfield made it a family affair. Our camera was the only one in Danielson Superior Court... when 26 year old Daniel Bassett -- along with his cousin, and co-defendant, 27 year old Jeremy Bassett -- were arraigned. The men are accused of vandalizing cars at the CVS Pharmacy... and at Happy Jack's Sports Bar... before being caught inside Plainfield Memorial School. Officials say the vandals caused 5- thousand dollars worth of damage. The superintendent says... it appears the men were looking for money or other valuables inside the school.

01/30/10: News Channel 8 at 5am - :15

**"9/11 Trial Location"**

The Obama administration seems to be unsure about where to hold trials for those involved in the 9-11 terror attack. The justice department had planned to try the five men in New York City the main scene of the crime. But as the word spread, so did the protests.

**February:**

02/03/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :20

**"New Haven Shooting Shoot Pagan"**

The city of New Haven... and its police department... have been slapped with a 10 million dollar lawsuit. 31-year old Ernest Pagan is filing the civil rights lawsuit... claiming 'false arrest' and imprisonment. Pagan spent 13 months in jail awaiting trial for a double shooting that left one man dead in a New Haven cafe in 2006. But... during the trial... two witnesses testified they didn't see Pagan at the crime scene... and they were \*pressured\* by two detectives to falsely identify him as the shooter. Police deny any wrongdoing in the case.... and the city is not commenting.

02/15/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :20

**"Death Row CT Crime Death"**

The oldest death row inmate in the U-S has died of natural causes at age 94. Viva Leroy Nash died late Friday... He spent 25 years in prison for shooting a Connecticut police officer in 1947. He was sentenced to life for another murder in in Salt Lake City 1977... then broke out of jail in 1982.. killed someone else a month later in Phoenix and was sentenced to death.

02/19/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :20

**"Shelton Woman Beaten"**

Shelton police are investigating an assault involving a 50-year old woman. Police say they were called to a home on Country Place last night by a caller who then hung up. E-M-S was also called to the scene...and the woman was transported to the hospital. We're told her injuries are life-threatening. The woman is listed in stable condition at the hospital. The State Police Major Crime Squad is also investigating.

**March:**

03/03/10: News Channel 8 at 6am -- 1:40

**"New London Shooting"**

Police are on the scene of a deadly shooting on Prest Street. New London Police and State Police Major Crime Squad are investigating a shooting here on Prest Street. One person is dead, another is in critical condition. So far police are not telling us a lot of details about the circumstances of the shooting. It happened early this morning. All police are saying is that one person is dead and ?All suspects are presently at large.? A spokesman for Lawrence and Memorial Hospital said they took in 2 gunshot victims this morning. They were both 21 years old. One was dead on arrival. They tried to resuscitate him, but could not. He had gun shot wounds to the neck and shoulder. The other victim was shot in the chest and shoulder and is in critical condition. Family members of the victims were at the hospital, too. Police were there, too. The

hospital says that is standard procedure when dealing with victims of violent crime. Police are also still here on the scene.

#### 03/11/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 5am - :50

##### **"Communion Theft"**

A pair of thieves accused of sinking to a new low and stealing from a woman while she was at church receiving communion. It happened in Portland at Saint Mary's Catholic church during last Sunday's 10:30 mass. The victim -- an 80 year old woman -- says they swiped her credit cards... her social security card and 100 bucks in her purse. Take a look at this surveillance video... the thieves... a man and a woman then took the woman's credit card to this New Britain Walgreens. If you know anything about this crime give police a call.

#### 03/29/10: News Channel 8 at 12 noon - :27

##### **"Hartford Hit and Run"**

Police have found the car but the search continues for the driver who 'struck and killed' a Hartford hospital worker and then took off. 46 year-old Robert Suljoti was on his way to work on Saturday morning when he was hit and killed. Witnesses say they saw a gray Acura keep going after it hit Suljoti. The car was found a short time later crashed into a fence on Maxim Road. If you have any information about the driver give the Hartford crime stoppers 'tip line' a call at 860-722-TIPS

### **Consumer Issues:**

#### **January:**

#### 01/05/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :25

##### **"Cablevision vs Scripps"**

Connecticut's Attorney General Richard Blumenthal said he's going to be talking with Cablevision and, he says consumers may have a case for a refund..

#### 01/21/10: News Channel 8 at 12pm - :20

##### **"Crib Recall"**

The U-S House is holding hearings today on the need for better oversight of crib safety. The hearing comes just a few days after the Consumer Product Safety Commission announced the recall of MORE THAN 600-THOUSAND CRIBS MADE BY Dorel Asia cribs. At least one child died from strangulation after getting trapped IN a space between the mattress and the side of a crib

#### 01/24/10: Good Morning Connecticut Weekend - :25

##### **"Salami Recall"**

And a multistate salmonella outbreak is believed to have started within a company based in Rhode Island. Shopping receipts link the tainted pepper coated salami to the Daniele International Corporation. The outbreak has sickened 184 people in 38 states since July.

#### 01/29/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :20

##### **"Pendant Recall"**

The "Princess and the Frog" children's pendants from the popular movie have been recalled due to high levels of the toxic heavy metal cadmium. The Consumer Product Safety Commission says the pendants were sold exclusively at Wal-Mart and made in China. Cadmium is a known carcinogen that studies have shown can harm brain development in children.

## **February:**

02/02/10: News Channel 8 at 12 noon - :25

### **"Toyota Recall"**

Toyota says its gas pedal trouble and it may hurt sales more than recalls in the past. After a recall sales typically drop about 20 percent in the first month and then slowly recover. Toyota fears this could be worse. New numbers released today show the recall covered nearly 4 and a half million cars worldwide. Small steel shims are being sent to dealerships today. The company says they will fix the problem.

02/10/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 5am - :20

### **"Honda Recall"**

Toyota isn't alone with trouble. Honda is adding to a recall. The automaker is adding 437 thousand vehicles across the globe to its recall for faulty airbags. This includes about 378-thousand cars in the U.S. The company will replace the driver's side air bag inflator in the cars because they can deploy with too much pressure injuring or killing the driver.

02/24/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :50

### **"Simple Ways to Save"**

If a financial emergency popped up today... the truth is millions of Americans wouldn't have the savings to cover the problem. Without savings emergencies like a job loss or a major home repair can be devastating to a household. Whether you've heard of it or not... this is America Saves Week. A number of consumer and banking industry groups are teaming up this week... for ways to help you start saving. Here are some tips to get you started. Save your loose change. Setting aside just fifty cents a day will put almost 200 dollars in a savings account by the end of one year. take a look at your spending at least once a month....and see what you can cut from your budget. Also... use plastic wisely. Plus... try an automatic savings account... one that takes money directly out of your paycheck and into your savings.

## **March:**

03/09/10: News Channel 8 at 11pm - :20

### **"CT Unemployment Numbers"**

The newest unemployment numbers for the state of Connecticut are in and they are not good. January numbers from the state Department of Labor show an increase in Connecticut's unemployment rate from 8-point eight to 9 percent. Still economists say there are signs the worst of the bad times are over. Donald Klepper Smith/Economist, 'We also have leading indicators showing improvements to consumer confidence is important and trending up... and having housing prices are starting to rise on a year to year basis' But although the unemployment rate increased slightly in January... Connecticut added more than 23-hundred jobs.

03/11/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :30

### **"Jacket Sweatshirt Recall"**

We have an important clothing recall to pass on to Burlington Coat Factory shoppers. The state Department of Consumer Protection is reporting a voluntary recall of Jackets and Sweatshirts. Some have drawstrings through the hood - which can pose a strangulation hazard to young kids. Others have the drawstrings around the neck and waist - which can get caught on other things... causing injury. Parents should return the clothes. For more information about this recall go to our website - wtnh.com.

03/25/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :20

### **"BBB Complaints Up"**

Had a problem with a Connecticut business? Well you're not alone. Complaints filed with the Better Business Bureau in 2009 were up almost 10 percent compared to the year before. Disgruntled consumers filed nearly a million complaints. The cell phone industry got the biggest number of complaints followed by the cable and satellite TV industry and banks.

## **Government, Economy, & Law**

### **January:**

01/09/10: Good Morning Connecticut Weekend - :25

#### **"Seniors and Drugs"**

Many consider drug abuse a young person's problem but a new government report shows its America's senior citizens who are increasing their use of illegal substances. Researchers blame an aging baby boomer population for the rise in elderly drug abuse. Listen to this, a majority of those older drug users are using marijuana but others are also abusing 'prescription drugs' .... Experts are now worried there won't be enough treatment centers for elderly patients.

01/25/10: News Channel 8 at 6am - :20

#### **"Immigration Clinics"**

A group of Connecticut immigration lawyers is offering free help to undocumented Haitians. Lawyers are offering to help those looking to stay temporarily in the U.S. following the earthquake. Federal officials have announced that undocumented Haitians living in the U.S. since before the quake may apply for 18 months of protective status shielding them from deportation.

01/29/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm - :15

#### **"CT Commuter Rail Financing"**

The federal government will be making 2-point-5 billion dollars a year available for these kinds of projects. Connecticut will be in line with all the other states that have plans for increased light rail systems like this.

### **February:**

02/01/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm – 1:30

#### **"DeLauro and Jobs"**

150 employees...from design engineers to assembly workers work here at 'SensorSwitch' in Wallingford. They're most famous for making those light switches that turn on the lights when you walk into a room. Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro was here today because 'SensorSwitch' was awarded 225-thousand dollars in tax credits from the big stimulus bill. They'll use it to buy a bigger more efficient automation machine...which they say...will eventually help to create some jobs. PLATNER: "Because as we become more competitive, the products become more cost effective so we'll be able to drive a better product at a less expensive price, therefore increasing our market share. And Platner says, stimulus money to schools around the country will actually help by creating more demand for his products. "It's also helping on the other side where the stimulus bill is providing money to local school districts and universities for them to do energy conservation upgrades which, in turn, consume our products." DeLauro says this is a perfect example of how the stimulus money actually works...and that creating jobs this way was the aim from the beginning. DELAURO "We have been talking about jobs all along, that is what the economic recovery program, this stimulus bill was...[DAVIS] But it seems it got lost, got buried because of health care. [DELAURO] "Health care is a part of where the overall development of our economy has to be in order to get us back on track."

### 02/15/10: Good Morning Connecticut Weekend - :30

#### **"Alcohol Sales"**

Mayors from New Haven, Hartford and Bridgeport are saying yes to Sunday sales of alcohol. Mayors John DeStefano, Eddie Perez and Bill Finch say...given the way the economy is now... legislators should lift the Sunday sales ban in order to save important government programs. Mayor Finch says the legislature can bring an additional 8-million dollars in revenue to the state in the year after a repeal. Connecticut is one of only 3 states with the ban of Sunday alcohol sales.

### 02/19/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :20

#### **"Need for Food"**

We hear a lot about demand at food banks during the holidays. But with the tough economy more people than ever are looking for help these days. At the Spooner House in Shelton... boxes of cereal and canned veggies are stacked up.. but make no mistake.. this is not enough to go around. The organization serves over 200 families... but you can only go there once a month. Plus, each time you go they give you a one-week's supply. If you'd like to help.. you can bring non-perishable items to the Spooner House in Shelton.. or head to our website... for how you can donate.

### 02/23/10: News Channel 8 at 5pm – 1:20

#### **"CT Jobs Bill"**

For thirty years Paul Dominello has run his deli and catering business in Meriden...and last year...in the middle of the recession he opened a small cafe downtown across from the courthouse. With members of his family he works long days to keep both businesses going. The Legislature's Democratic leadership came here today to demonstrate the need for a local jobs stimulus plan they're pushing to a public hearing next week. It would suspend the 250 dollar a year business registration tax...and create a revolving loan fund specifically aimed at the needs of small business. "Businesses who've had a tough time riding this economy, those who are ready to make that investment, to make that statement, that they are in business and that they are staying in business." "People may think that 250 dollars isn't a lot of money in a day to day picture but overall, for us, that is something that we can leave in our pocket, we may be able to keep somebody working a couple more hours this week, couple more hours next week if we didn't have to put that money out." The Governor, who met with the leaders yesterday, has a similar proposal and said today she's waiting for more details on the Democrats' plan and wants to move forward soon on the idea. Rell said, "I hope to hear from them by the end of the week and hopefully we can actually push something through the legislature in the next week or so."

### **March:**

### 03/01/10: News Channel 8 at 11pm - :20

#### **"CT Medical Errors"**

There's a push to have Connecticut hospitals report more medical errors. Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal says since 2004 -- about 116 people in our state have died due to medical errors. A proposal before the state senate would require the Department of Public Health to publish an annual report on adverse incidents at hospitals and conduct random audits. Bill Smith says the circumstances of his wife's death - were 'not' released. "She was approximately one hour into recovery when all of a sudden she flat-lined or something happened. By the time medical folks got to her bedside, they were able to resuscitate her in approximately one minute however she was already brain dead and went on life support." "There was no investigation done by the hospital and the information that would have detailed what happened to her was intentionally destroyed." The Smith's attorney says families are forced to go to court to get answers. Five states including Massachusetts already have a similar law in place.

03/18/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 5am - :22

**"Bysiewicz Update"**

We'll find out next month if Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz is qualified to run for State Attorney General. State law requires an attorney general to have ten years of "active legal practice" in Connecticut. Bysiewicz says her 11 years as Secretary of the State should count. If not, she wants that statute to be declared unconstitutional. The question will go before a judge April 6th.

03/26/10: Good Morning Connecticut at 6am - :30

**"Foreclosure Help"**

Homeowners who are behind on their mortgages can expect to get some new help from the government. Today the OBAMA administration is announcing major changes. That's because a year ago, they said they had a program that would help three to four-million homeowners avoid foreclosure. To date... just 168-thousand have had their mortgages permanently modified. A harsh new government report also claims the program isn't working. As part of the coming changes... lenders will now be required to reduce or even eliminate mortgage payments for many unemployed homeowners